

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (Cancelled)

2. (Currently amended) A method of inhibiting hematopoiesis in a subject comprising downregulating an expression or activity of caspase-8 in the subject, wherein said downregulating said expression or activity of caspase-8 is effected by: (a) an antibody, an antibody fragment, z-VAD-fmk, IEDT-fmk, or DEVD-fmk which binds caspase-8; (b) an enzyme which cleaves caspase-8; (c) an antisense polynucleotide capable of specifically hybridizing with an mRNA transcript encoding caspase-8; (d) a ribozyme which specifically cleaves transcripts encoding caspase-8; (e) a small interfering RNA (siRNA) molecule which specifically cleaves caspase-8 transcripts; (f) a non-functional analogue of at least a catalytic or binding portion of caspase-8; (g) a vector for inducing and/or enhancing the endogenous production of an endogenous inhibitor of caspase-8; and/or (h) a vector for inhibiting the endogenous production of endogenous caspase-8.

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein downregulating said expression or activity of caspase-8 is effected by a sequence of said antisense polynucleotide is set forth by SEQ ID NO: 16.

4. (Cancelled)

5. (Withdrawn-Currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein downregulating said expression or activity of caspase-8 is effected by said antibody or said antibody fragment is a Fab or a ScFv fragment.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Withdrawn-Currently amended) The method of claim 2, wherein downregulating said expression or activity of caspase-8 is effected by a sequence of said small interfering RNA (siRNA) molecule is set forth by SEQ ID NO : 15.

8.-62. (Cancelled)

63. (New) The method of claim 3, wherein said antisense polynucleotide comprises the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 16.

64. (New) The method of claim 5, wherein said antibody fragment is a Fab or a ScFv fragment.

65. (New) The method of claim 5, wherein said antibody or antibody fragment blocks association of caspase-8 with Fas Associated protein with Death Domain (FADD).

66. (New) The method of claim 5, wherein the antibody or antibody fragment is a monoclonal antibody or monoclonal antibody fragment.

67. (New) The method of claim 5, wherein the antibody or antibody fragment is a humanized antibody or humanized antibody fragment.

68. (New) The method of claim 7, wherein said small interfering RNA (siRNA) molecule comprises the sequence set forth in SEQ ID NO: 15.

69. (New) The method of claim 2, wherein the method comprises downregulating an expression or activity of an  $\alpha 1$  splice variant or an  $\alpha 2$  splice variant of caspase-8.

70. (New) The method of claim 2, wherein said vector comprises a viral vector.

71. (New) The method of claim 2, wherein one or more of (a)-(g) is delivered to the subject by direct injection into bone marrow.